

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN GEORGE GOLIE**, on January 11, 2005 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

00:00:01

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. George Golie, Chairman (D)  
Rep. Paul Clark, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Scott Sales, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. John Balyeat (R)  
Rep. Arlene Becker (D)  
Rep. Dee L. Brown (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D)  
Rep. George Everett (R)  
Rep. Tom Facey (D)  
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Harry Klock (R)  
Rep. Roger Koopman (R)  
Rep. Mike Milburn (R)  
Rep. Art Noonan (D)  
Rep. Don Roberts (R)  
Rep. John Ward (R)  
Rep. Bill Warden (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Larry Jent (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary  
Doug Sternberg, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 50, 1/7/2005; HB 131, 1/7/2005;  
HB 174, 1/7/2005

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON HB 50**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:18

**REP. DON ROBERTS (R), HD 56**, opened the hearing on HB 50, Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks authority to remove species from state endangered species list.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:29 Christian A. Smith, Chief of Staff, Montana Fish  
Wildlife & Parks

**EXHIBIT(fih07a01)**

00:06:54 Janet Ellis, Executive Director, Montana Audubon

00:07:32 Nancy Schlepp, Montana Farm Bureau

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:14 **REP. BROWN**

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:08:42 **REP. DON ROBERTS (R), HD 56**, closed the hearing on  
HB 50.

**HEARING ON HB 131**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:09:05

**REP. PAUL CLARK (D), HD 13**, opened the hearing on HB 131, Revise fish and game felony laws.

**EXHIBIT(fih07a02)**

**EXHIBIT(fih07a03)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:17:29 John Connor, Chief Criminal Counsel, Department of  
Justice

00:18:36 Barbara Harris, Assistant Attorney General,  
Prosecution Services Bureau, Department of Justice

00:21:44 Jim Kropp, Chief, Department of Fish Wildlife &  
Parks, Enforcement Division

**EXHIBIT(fih07a04)**

00:22:51 Nathan Birkeland, Montana Wildlife Federation  
00:23:14 Bob Gilbert, Executive Director, Walleye's  
Unlimited of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:25:38 REP. ROBERTS  
00:27:45 CHAIRMAN GOLIE

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:31:47 REP. PAUL CLARK (D), HD 13, closed the hearing on  
HB 131.

**HEARING ON HB 174**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:31:57  
REP. JOHN WITT (R), HD 28, opened the hearing on HB 174, Revise  
private pond licensing laws.  
[EXHIBIT\(fih07a05\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:13 Christian A. Smith, Chief of Staff, Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks  
[EXHIBIT\(fih07a06\)](#)  
00:40:26 Robin Cunningham, Fishing Outfitters of Montana  
00:41:05 Mark Aagenes, Conservation Specialist, Trout  
Unlimited  
00:41:32 Janet Ellis, Executive Director, Montana Audubon

**Opponents' Testimony:**

[EXHIBIT\(fih07a07\)](#)  
[EXHIBIT\(fih07a08\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:42:15 REP. GOLIE  
00:44:46 REP. WARDEN  
00:48:09 REP. BROWN  
00:51:03 REP. BECKER  
00:53:33 REP. KOOPMAN  
00:59:35 DOUG STERNBERG, STAFF  
01:01:44 REP. MILBURN  
01:05:25 CHAIRMAN GOLIE

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:09:57      **REP. JOHN WITT (R), HD 28**, closed hearing on HB  
174.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:25 P.M.

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REP. GEORGE GOLIE, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

GG/DP

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fih07aad0.PDF](#))**